



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: Jaroslav Hyncek

Filed: March 12, 2001

Examiner: Yoder III, Chriss S.

Serial No.: 09/802,556

Art Unit: 2612

Title: High Dynamic Range Charge Readout
System

File: ISE103

I certify that this correspondence is being deposited
with the United States Postal Service as First Class
Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks, P.O. Box 1450,
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Date:

5/18/06 *[Signature]*
John E. Vandigriff, Reg. No. 22127

Petition to Accept Fee (No Penalty)

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a petition to accept the enclosed Continuing application with filing fee and no other fee.

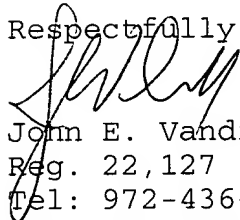
(1) A change of address dated January 27, 2005 was sent to the patent office. Copy enclosed.

(2) Unknown to attorney for applicant, the PTO changed the correspondence address back to the previous address, which is an incorrect address. The post office only keeps forwarding records for one year. An advisory action was sent to the old address more than one year after the change of address. Attorney for applicant did not know of the advisory action until it was discovered the PTO changed the correspondence address back to an old obsolete address. The advisory action was downloaded from PAIR. (Copy of first page enclosed).

(3) In view of the above circumstance, a response was not timely filed. Applicant wishes to file a continuing application and the filing fee has been enclosed. There should be no penalty for the delayed filing because of the PTO erroneously changed the correspondence address and Attorney for applicant is not receiving correspondence from the PTO. The Attorney is presently checking all applications on PAIR to see what else may be due for which no correspondence has been received.

(4) The Filing fee is enclosed .

Respectfully submitted,

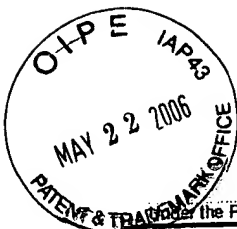


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Reg. 22,127

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**CHANGE OF
CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS
Application**

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| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Application Number | 09/802,556 |
| Filing Date | 03/12/2001 |
| First Named Inventor | Jaroslav Hynecek |
| Art Unit | 2612 |
| Examiner Name | Yoder III, Chriss S. |
| Attorney Docket Number | ISE103 |

Please change the Correspondence Address for the above-identified patent application to:

☐ The address associated with
Customer Number.

OR

☒ Firm or
Individual Name **John E. Vandigriff**

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I am the:

☐ Applicant/Inventor

☐ Assignee of record of the entire interest.
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).

☒ Attorney or agent of record. Registration Number **22,127**

☐ Registered practitioner named in the application transmittal letter in an application without an executed oath or declaration. See 37 CFR 1.33(a)(1). Registration Number _____

Signature

Typed or Printed
Name

John E. Vandigriff

Date

1/27/02

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NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

☐ Total of _____ forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.33. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

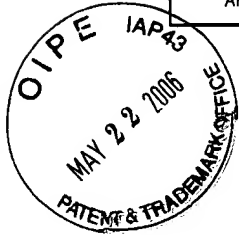
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| APPLICATION NUMBER | PATENT NUMBER | GROUP ART UNIT | FILE WRAPPER LOCATION |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| 09/802,556 | | 2612 | 04B0 |



Correspondence Address / Fee Address Change

The following fields have been set to Customer Number 27382 on 10/06/2005

- Correspondence Address
- Maintenance Fee Address

The address of record for Customer Number 27382 is:
JOHN E. VANDIGRIFF
190 N. STEMMONS FRWY., SUITE 200
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*This change
not authorized
by Attorney*



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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/802,556 | 03/12/2001 | Jaroslav Hynecek | ISE103 | 9129 |

27382 7590 04/12/2006
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| EXAMINER |
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YODER III, CHRISS S

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2622

DATE MAILED: 04/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

CLAIMS (As amended)

1. (Currently amended) A solid-state image sensor having a readout architecture that incorporates charge multipliers, said image sensor including:

a first CCD register adjacent to at least a second CCD register and coupled to the said first register through a charge overflow barrier, where charge may overflow during transfer, the width of the CCD registers varies in proportion to the increasing amount of charge depending on the number of CCD stages that include charge multiplication devices.

2. (Previously Amended) The image sensor according to claim 1 wherein the second adjacent CCD register collects overflow charge and transports it to at least one detection node located in each register, and each charge detection node having charge conversion sensitivity that may be different for each node.

3. (Original) The image sensor according to claim 2, wherein signals from adjacent register detection nodes are processed and combined according to a predetermined mathematical formula.

4. (Presently Amended) A solid-state image sensor having a readout architecture that incorporates charge multipliers, said image sensor including:

a CCD register that incorporates at least one charge-multiplication device element in at least one stage and said at least one stage has a progressively wider width;

wherein the width of the CCD register-stages and the number of charge-multiplication elements in at least some of its stages varies according to a predetermined formula.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Presently amended) The image sensor according to claim 5 4, wherein the predetermined formula has an exponential dependency on the number of CCD stages that include charge multiplication devices.

7. Cancelled

8. (Currently Amended) The image sensor according to claim 4, wherein the CCD register has a charge overflow barrier and a charge overflow drain incorporated in at least one of its stages to prevent charge blooming in the direction of charge transfer.

9. (Currently Amended) A solid-state image sensor having a readout architecture, said readout architecture incorporating:

charge multipliers;

CCD registers; and

a charge overflow device in at least one of its registers; wherein the width of the CCD register-stages and the number of charge-multiplication elements in at least some of its stages varies according to a predetermined formula which has an exponential dependency on the number of CCD stages that include charge multiplication devices.

10 Cancelled